Emergence of Europe

His 1101 (required course for History major)
M/W 4:30-5:45
Professor Wil Stenhouse

This course examines the history of Europe from the rise of ancient Greece (around 600 BCE) to the aftermath of the Renaissance and Reformation (around 1650 CE). It aims to introduce the study of history alongside the pre-modern history of Europe: as well as considering the central political, cultural, and religious developments of the era, we look in detail at some primary sources created at the time, to try to understand how historians can use them to learn about the past. These sources include images, letters, and satirical tracts, as well as more familiar historical and biographical accounts. Assessment is by participation, short responses, papers, and exams.
Immigrant Nations: US and Israel

HIS 2913 (satisfies COWC Core requirement)

Friday, 10:00-12:15

Professor Hadassa Kosak

The course surveys the political, cultural, and social implications of large-scale immigration to the US and to Israel. Although both countries pride themselves on being nations of immigrants, historically, not all immigrants were welcome, and both nations have a record of resorting to selectivity or outright exclusion of the less desirable newcomers. In our discussion of immigrants, we will include African Americans, who were coerced to "immigrate" as early as 1619. The Act of 1790 denying citizenship status to black males became a model for "racializing" groups such as the Chinese and the Irish in the mid-19th century and later immigrants from Eastern and Southern Europe.

A similar model developed in the early days of pre-state Palestine when the Zionist leadership assigned a secondary role in the Zionist project to Yemeni Jews. Focusing on the 20th and 21st centuries, the course will examine the immigrants to the two countries: the patterns of absorption and the privileged status of western Europeans in the US and Ashkenazi immigrants in the pre-state years and in Israel.
This course explores various ways of understanding the figure of the Roman emperor. We focus on the first emperor Augustus and one of his successors, Nero, and then think a little about the ways they have been remembered. In class we discuss a range of textual and visual sources for the emperor, including poems, historical accounts, ruins, and coins, and place the emergence of the emperors within Rome’s political, religious, and cultural traditions.

Assessment is by participation, informal responses and discussions, short papers, and two tests.
History of the Law

HIS 2601 (satisfies CUOT Core requirement)

T/Th 4:30-5:45

Professor Douglas Burgess

This course examines the development of western law from an historical perspective. Through a combination of lecture and discussion of assigned readings, students will be introduced to the foundational documents of the law, their historical context, and their relevance to modern jurisprudence. Students will be expected to recognize and comprehend major themes of private and public law, the relationship of subject and sovereign, rights of the individual, law and statecraft, and the philosophy of law.
American Presidents

HIS 2220 (satisfies CUOT Core requirement)

T/Th 6:45-8:00

Professor Douglas Burgess

This introductory course examines the development and evolution of the American Presidency. Beginning as an experiment in enlightened government, the office of the executive gradually expanded to meet new and greater challenges—and was irrevocably shaped by the men who occupied it.
Media Revolutions: From Scroll to Screen

HIS 2909 (satisfies CUOT Core requirement)

T/Th 3:00-4:15

Professor Jeffrey Freedman

This course surveys the history of media from the ancient world to the present. Taking ‘media’ in the broadest sense to encompass the full range of communications technologies, we will begin with the papyri scrolls of ancient Greece and move from there through the manuscript codex of the Middle Ages, the printed book of the age of Gutenberg, newspapers in the 18th and 19th centuries, radio and film in the 20th century, and the internet and social media of our own digital age. Several recurrent questions will frame our survey of media landscapes: How, to what ends, and in what institutional settings are particular media used? How do they affect modes of thinking? And what are the relations of different media to the various historical forms of religious, political, and economic power?
This course examines the fate of European Jewry between 1933 and 1945. We shall cover the rise and fall of the democratic Weimar Republic in the 1920s, the Nazi seizure of power, anti-Jewish policy and legislation in Nazi Germany, ghettoization in Nazi Europe, and the conception and implementation of the Final Solution during the Second World War. Additional topics will include the problem of the Judenrat, Jewish resistance, life in the ghettos and camps, the Jewish Question and public opinion in Nazi-occupied Europe, and the reactions of the Allies, the Church, and world Jewry to the Holocaust.